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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/672,968

09/25/2003

Peter G. Tolchinsky

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8791

7590

05/24/2006

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EXAMINER

SMITH, BRADLEY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2891

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

11A

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/672,968

Applicant(s)

TOLCHINSKY ET AL.

Examiner

Bradley K. Smith

Art Unit

2891

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5,6,9-12 and 15-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5,6,9-12 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Search Notes</u> |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because figures 4d, 4e, and 4g are not formal. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Official Notice

1. Official notice is taken that silicon carbide (SiC) has a thermal conductivity that is greater than the thermal conductivity of silicon (Si). This is supported by the applicant's specification [0023] and Hummel (*Electronic Properties of Materials*) [Table 19.3].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 9, 10-12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kub et al. (2004/0224482). Kub et al. discloses forming a splitting layer in a semiconductor donor substrate (11); and depositing a bulk heat dissipation handle substrate(17) onto the semiconductor donor substrate, the bulk heat dissipation handle substrate having a thermal conductivity greater than that of said semiconductor donor substrate; and splitting said semiconductor donor substrate along said splitting layer after depositing said bulk heat dissipation handle substrate onto said semiconductor donor substrate (0044-0050). Regarding claim 2, Kub *et al.* further teaches a bulk heat dissipation substrate of SiC (0045).

Art Unit: 2891

Regarding claim 3, Kub *et al.* further teaches a bulk heat dissipation substrate which is a material that removes heat from the semiconductor substrate (inherent characteristic).

Regarding claims 5 and 6, Kub *et al.* further teaches forming the splitting layer by implanting hydrogen in the semiconductor substrate [0050].

Regarding claim 9, Kub *et al.* discloses using CVD to deposit the stiffening layer (0045).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 – 3, 5, 6, 9, 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kub *et al.* in view of Ghyselen *et al.*

Kub *et al.* (US 6,323,108) teaches a process comprising forming a splitting layer **12** within the semiconductor substrate **10**, bonding the substrate directly to a bulk heat dissipation [column 4, lines 43-44] substrate **18** having a thermal conductivity greater than that of the substrate, and splitting the substrate along the splitting layer [column 6, line 41]. Kub *et al.* does not discuss depositing the bulk heat dissipation substrate by chemical vapor deposition (CVD). Ghyselen *et al.* (US 6,867,067) teaches depositing a SiC substrate [column 6, lines 60-65]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to deposit the bulk heat dissipation substrate as taught by Ghyselen *et al.*

Art Unit: 2891

in the method of Kub *et al.* since this alternate method of forming a bulk heat dissipation substrate provides improved growth rate and deposition parameter adjustment [column 7, lines 10-15].

Regarding claim 2, Kub *et al.* further teaches a bulk heat dissipation substrate of SiC [column 6, line 59].

Regarding claim 3, Kub *et al.* further teaches a bulk heat dissipation substrate which is a material that removes heat from the semiconductor substrate [column 6, lines 60-67].

Regarding claims 5 and 6, Kub *et al.* further teaches forming the splitting layer by implanting hydrogen in the semiconductor substrate [column 5, lines 55-65].

Regarding claims 9-12, Kub *et al.* does not discuss a chemical vapor deposition technique for depositing the SiC substrate. Ghyselen *et al.* teaches a CVD deposition method. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the CVD method of Ghyselen *et al.* in the method of Kub *et al.* since this method provides a low temperature method of depositing a SiC substrate as taught by Ghyselen *et al.*

Regarding claim 10, Kub *et al.* further teaches forming a transition layer on the bulk heat dissipation substrate which is silicon nitride or polysilicon [column 7, lines 5-10] and then bonding the transition layer to the substrate [Figure 1B].

4. Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kub *et al.* in view of Letertre *et al.*

Kub *et al.* teaches a process comprising providing a silicon wafer **10**, implanting hydrogen in the semiconductor substrate [column 5, lines 55-65; Figure 1A], bonding a

Art Unit: 2891

SiC layer 18 [Figure 1B], and splitting the substrate along the implantation layer 12 [Figure 1C]. Kub *et al.* does not discuss depositing the SiC layer by CVD or polishing the silicon layer or SiC layer. Letertre *et al.* (US 6,815,309) teaches depositing a 0.5 mm thick SiC layer by using CVD [column 6, line 62; column 7, line 3] and polishing the SiC and Si layers [column 6, lines 5-10]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art use the SiC layer of Letertre *et al.* with the polishing steps in the method of Kub *et al.* since this provides a Si and SiC layers by a typical deposition method with adjustable thicknesses which is compatible with further processing technologies.

5. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kub *et al.* and Letertre *et al.* as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of Lam *et al.*

Kub *et al.* as modified by Letertre *et al.* teach the limitations of claim 15 as described above, but they do not discuss the polished thickness of the SiC layer. Lam *et al.* (US 2005/0060115) teaches a 300 mm wafer which has a final thickness of 0.775 mm [0006]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to polish the SiC layer to a thickness of between 0.75 mm and 0.8 mm since this is the industry standard thickness for 300 mm wafers.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 2/17/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The examiner has not found where Kub teaches forming a donor substrate on a handle substrate. The cited section discloses (column 8 lines 38-44) "The process sequence is shown in FIG. 1. 100 mm diameter, 10 Ohm.-cm, n-type, (100) orientation substrates were thermally oxidized in dry O.sub.2 to produce 120 nm of SiO.sub.2 for

Art Unit: 2891

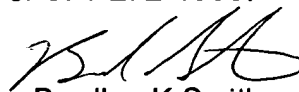
"handle" wafer fabrication. On similar (emphasis added) starting substrates, Si and Si.sub.x Ge.sub.1-x films were epitaxially grown by chemical vapor deposition to form the "host" substrate." No where in this cited section does Kub teach forming a donor or host substrate on the handle layer.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bradley K. Smith whose telephone number is 571-272-1884. The examiner can normally be reached on 10-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bill Baumeister can be reached on 571-272-1722. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Bradley K Smith
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2891